

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:212
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2004
MARR TECHNOLOGY PHONES
Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to convert all MARR technology phones into WLL technology and landline phones;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the target fixed in 2004-2005;
- (c) the time by when all MARR technology phones are likely to be replaced; and
- (d) the benefits that will accrue to the consumer as a result of such replacement?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 212 FOR 15TH DECEMBER, 2004 REGARDING MARR TECHNOLOGY PHONES.

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has planned to replace all Multi Access Radio Relay (MARR) based VPTs by Wireless/Wireline technologies. As on 31.10.2004, 1,13,839 MARR VPTs have already been replaced in the country. BSNL plans to replace 40,000 MARR VPTs during the year 2004-05. Further, it has planned to replace the remaining MARR based VPTs by June, 2006 in accordance with the terms and conditions stipulated in the agreement for the award of work by the office of Administrator, Universal Service Obligation (USO) Fund.

(d) The benefits which are likely to accrue to the consumers as a result of the replacement of MARR VPTs are as under:-

- (i) Improvement in the quality and reliability of services rendered
- (ii) Availability of Data facility to the users